[Mr. K. Dominic Tomman.]

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): They hold it as their property subject to payment of *Thirumukhakazhcha*.

MR. M. R. MADHAVA VARIAR (*Chengannur* cum *Pattanamtitta*): May I know whether the Government have any civil or criminal jurisdiction there?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Yes.

MR. M. R. MADHAVA VARIAR (*Chengannur* cum *Pattanamtitta*): May I know whether the people themselves assigned their rights or the island was assigned by Government?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Government registered it on *Anubhogam* tenure in the name of the C. M. S. authorities some years ago.

MR. M. R. MADHAVA VARIAR (*Chengannur* cum *Pattanamtitta*): Are not the Government receiving *pattam*?

PRESIDENT: It is a sort of *Inam* grant.

Transfer of Revenue Subordinates in the Devicolam Division.

79. MR. K. DOMINIC TOMMAN (*Devicolam* cum *Peermade*):

(1) Are the Government aware that there is a great deal of dissatisfaction and heart-burning among the revenue subordinates of the Devicolam Division as a result of G. O. No. L. R. 9372/1258 of 1919, dated the 15th October, 1920, directing the Commissioner, Devicolam, to discountenance applications from revenue subordinates for transfers to the plains?

(2) Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table a list showing—

(*a*) the names of the revenue subordinates whose applications have been discountenanced by the Commissioner, Devicolam, and by his subordinate officers to whom applications for transfers to the plains were made by their subordinates, since the date of the G. O. above referred to;

(*b*) the number of years each of them has been serving in the Devicolam Division;

(*c*) the ranks of the several revenue subordinates who applied for such transfers;

(*d*) the reasons given by each applicant for the transfer; and

(*e*) the remarks, if any, made by the discountenancing authority concerned against each application?

(3) Is there not a definite Government or departmental ruling or tacit understanding or procedure followed by the heads of the several departments, whereby a certain period of compulsory hill service is enforced on the officers and subordinates of such departments as the Medical, the Excise, the Police, the Anchal and the Forest?

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(4) Is it not also an accepted practice of the Government and the heads of these departments to give such subordinates as have served on the hills transfers to the plains on their request or in the usual course when their compulsory period of service is over?

(5) Are not officers of the different departments sometimes transferred from the plains to the hills as a punishment?

(6) Are not inter-divisional transfers allowed to revenue subordinates in the other Revenue Divisions of the State?

(7) Are not the Government aware of the disabilities and difficulties experienced by the revenue subordinates undergoing a period of long, continuous and enforced hill service, in the matter of giving adequate education to their children?

(8) Will the Government be pleased to adopt a uniform rule applicable to all the Revenue Divisions in the matter of transfers of revenue subordinates?

(9) Will the Government be pleased to adopt a uniform rule of hill service applicable to the officers and subordinates of all departments?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*):

(1) Government are not aware.

(2) A list* furnishing the information is laid on the table.

(3) The answer is in the negative.

(4) There is no hard and fast rule on the point. It is discretionary with heads of departments to transfer their subordinates from one place to another. There is no such thing as compulsory service on the hills.

(5) The answer is in the affirmative.

(6) The answer is in the negative.

(7) Government are aware that there are no facilities at present for higher education on the hills.

(8) & (9) Government do not consider it practicable or expedient to adopt any such uniform procedure. The subordinate officers employed on the hills get promotion much sooner than their *confreres* on the plains and they get hill allowance in addition.

Appointment of a Committee for increasing the Output of Salt.

80. MR. A. HOOGEWERF (*Nominated*): If there has not been a substantial increase in the output of salt in South Travancore factories, will the Government be pleased to appoint a committee of experts to enquire into the whole matter of manufacture of salt, not only in South Travancore but in Central and North Travancore, so as to make the State self-contained in its supply of salt?

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): The causes that operate against a large output of salt in the Travancore salt factories are well-known. Government do not therefore see the necessity for the appointment of a committee.

* *Vide* Appendix III—page 660.

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Appendix III.

***Vide* Answer to Question No. 79.**

List of subordinates in the Devicolam Revenue Division whose applications for transfer to the plains were not granted.

Serial No.	Name of applicant.	Pay. Rs.	Number of years they were serving in the Devicolam Division.			Rank.	Reason for transfer.	Remarks by the discountenancing authority.
			Y.	M.	D.			
1	P. K. Padmanabhan Tampi	15	9	8	...	Copyist	Family difficulties and ill health.	He was asked to arrange for a mutual transfer.
2	R. Sankara Pillai	25-40	8	2	7	Clerk	To look after the welfare of his mother.	
3	G. Krishna Pillai	20	22	...	...	Proverthicar	Rheumatism.	
4	K. Paramu Pillai	8	13	1	28	Peon	Poor pay.	He was aked to arrange for a mutual transfer.
5	P. Krishna Pillai	8	19	...	...	Do.	Rheumatism.	
6	G. Govinda Menon	9-11	14	5	11	Do.	Do.	He was transferred from Peermade to Devicolam.
7	K. Velayudhan Pillai	-11	...	10	9	Do.	Poor pay.	Recorded.